



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Akihiko YOSHIDA, et al. Art Unit: 1745
Appln No.: 10/730,256 Exr.: M. Wills
Filed: December 9, 2003 Conf. No.: 3347
For: ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE-ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY FOR FUEL
CELL AND OPERATION METHOD OF FUEL CELL USING THE
SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement of June 15, 2007, Applicants hereby elect Group III, claims 25-36, drawn to a gas diffusion layer, classified in class 429, subclass 36, with traverse.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement. No unduly extensive or burdensome search would be required to examine the various claims of the noted Groups in the same application. MPEP §803 states:

"If the search and examination of all the claims in an application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine them on the merits, even though they include claims to distinct or independent inventions." (Emphasis

added)